

PATENT
Serial No. 10/506,291
Amendment in Reply to Office Action mailed on January 12, 2006

IN THE DRAWING

Please replace FIG 2 with the enclosed replacement FIG 2.

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REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 12, 2006, which has been reviewed and carefully considered.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-12 have been amended. Claims 1-12 remain pending in this application, with claims 1, 5 and 9 being the independent claims.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-12 have been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--, and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Claims 1-12 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the references cited in the EPO Search Report dated August 28, 2003

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have been considered, but will not be listed on any patent resulting from this application because they were not provided on a separate list in compliance with 37 CFR 19.8(a)(1). The Examiner indicated that, in order to have the reference printed on such resulting patent, a separate listing preferably on a PTO/SB/08A, must be filed within the set period for reply to this Office Action.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's consideration of the references cited in the EPO Search Report dated August 28, 2003. Further, as indicated by the Examiner, a PTO/SB/08A form is enclosed herewith listing the noted references to be initialed, signed and dated by the Examiner. As the Examiner already considered these references, it is presumed that the Examiner has a copy of such references, such as forwarded by the International Bureau (IB). Upon request, Applicants will provide additional copies of these references.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings because of unlabeled boxes in FIG 2. In response, FIG 2 has been amended to label the boxes. A replacement sheet including FIG 2 is enclosed. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the

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drawings objection and approval of the enclosed proposed drawing changes.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the title of the invention was not sufficiently descriptive, and required a new title. In response, the current title has been deleted and substituted with a new title which is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for subject matter recited in claims 2, 6 and 11, namely, related to location of extended information blocks. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification provides ample antecedent basis, such as on page 7, lines 7-8, page 18, lines 32-34 and page 20, lines 32-33. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(2) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,411,574 (Su). In addition, claims 1, 3-5, 7-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by

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U.S. Patent No. 6,330,210 (Weirauch). It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1-12 should be allowable over Su and Weirauch for at least the following reasons.

Su is directed to a coding and decoding high-capacity storage medium where recording time is expanded. Weirauch is directed to a data structure for control information on re-writeable data storage media.

It is respectfully submitted that Su and Weirauch, alone or in combination do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 5 and 9 where, amongst other patentable elements, requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

block version number indicator indicative of the a definition of the additional parameter including information related to interpreting the additional parameter for allowing the device to establish from the block version number indicator whether the device is capable of interpreting the additional parameters.

These features are nowhere taught or suggested in Su, Weirauch and combination thereof. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 5 and 9 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is

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respectfully submitted that claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-12 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1, 5 and 9.

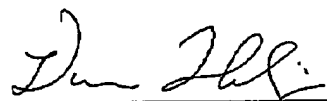
In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to Applicants' representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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April 12, 2006

Enclosure: Replacement drawing sheet (including FIG 2)
New Abstract
PTO/SB/08A form

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